

**From:** [djvanlant@gmail.com](mailto:djvanlant@gmail.com)  
**To:** [E-OHPSCA2713.EBSA](#)  
**Subject:** Comment: RIN 1210-AB44  
**Date:** Thursday, September 08, 2011 2:24:38 PM

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To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing today to ask in the strongest way possible that you rescind the unjust and coercive mandate that all "contraceptives" and sterilization procedures be covered by private health insurance with no co-pay to patients. If you do not reverse course I ask you to expand conscience protections for any organizations that provide individual and group insurance and have moral or religious objections. I strongly oppose the government forcing free insurance coverage on Americans especially for drugs and devices that I oppose because some of these can cause an abortion (such as ella and Plan B).

I also ask you to reconsider your definition of religious employer and offer an authentic conscience protection for any organization and business that has moral or religious objection to providing such insurance to their employees. This legal mandate clearly violates the spirit of conscience laws which prohibit government discrimination against those who object to various health services on moral or religious grounds. Those who support a woman's right to abortion claim they are not pro-abortion but pro-choice. RIN 1210-AB44 forces those who oppose abortion to be pro-choice and therefore pro-abortion. This mandate robs people of their choice in the name of freedom of choice. It is difficult to imagine a more draconian measure than RIN 1210-AB44.

The definition of "religious employer" in the regulation is so narrow as to only include churches, but will still mean that a host of businesses and organizations that have conscience objections will be required to choose between either violating their conscience or not being able to offer employees health insurance.

Please protect the right and freedom of insurers, providers and people like me to live according to our consciences. I object to being forced by the federal government to offer or subsidize contraceptives and sterilization services, especially when some of these drugs can take the life of early unborn children. No Americans should be forced by the federal government to essentially subsidize services they object to. I urge to reverse course and remove contraceptives and sterilizations from the list of mandatory preventive services.

Sincerely,  
David Van Lant  
Norwalk, CA 90650